



Gary Rutledge
Alabama

feeding a college football team is staggering."

And it was Frank Broyles, of Arkansas, always thinking, who during the energy crisis and with the money crisis thinks far-ahead schedules should be junked. And he thinks the toughs should play the toughs, and not beat up the havenots, discouraging the players and their fans early, and causing a dip in morale and attendance.

Broyles' fear may be prophetic for 1974 because it looks for all the world like, with a few exceptions, '74 will take up where '73 left off.

A coach of considerable repute, but of anonymity in this case, was asked for his Top Four for '74, right now. Unhesitatingly, he named Notre Dame, Alabama, Oklahoma and Southern Cal. Asked for four more, he ticked off Ohio State, Texas, Michigan and Penn State.

And a tip is he was the coach of one of those eight.

Asked for five more, he added Maryland, Nebraska, Houston, Louisiana State and Arizona. He then threw in as outside shots Pittsburgh, UCLA, Florida, Missouri, Arkansas, San Diego State and Arizona State.

In the Midwest, where was spawned last year's national champion Irish team, there again Parseghian, Woody Hayes of Ohio State and Bo Schembechler appear top-rung. Minnesota is the darkhorse to watch in the Big Ten and it's time imaginative Lee Corso at Indiana began upsetting people. Miami of Ohio should roll again in the Mid-American Conference.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS, 1924-73

Notre Dame was voted unofficial national champion in 1973 in the final Associated Press (writers) poll, held after Notre Dame's 24-23 victory over Alabama in the Sugar Bowl. Alabama was voted champion in the final United Press International (coaches) poll, held before the bowls. Notre Dame was voted No. 1 by the Football Writers' Association, after the bowls.

It was Notre Dame's ninth national championship since 1924—most in the country—and second during coach Ara Parseghian's 10 seasons at the Irish helm. Southern Cal is next with five.

Alabama coach Bear Bryant now has won or shared four national crowns—in 1961, 64, 65, 73—and no coach has won more since 1924. Only two have won as many—Notre Dame's Frank Leahy and Minnesota's Bernie Bierman, four each.

1973—N. Dame, Ala.	1961—Alabama	1949—Notre Dame	1936—Minnesota
1972—Southern Cal	1960—Minnesota	1948—Michigan	1935—SMU
1971—Nebraska	1959—Syracuse	1947—Notre Dame	1934—Minnesota
1970—Nebraska, Texas	1958—LSU	1946—Notre Dame	1933—Michigan
1969—Texas	1957—Auburn, Ohio St.	1945—Army	1932—Michigan
1968—Ohio State	1956—Oklahoma	1944—Army	1931—Southern Cal
1967—Southern Cal	1955—Oklahoma	1943—Notre Dame	1930—Notre Dame
1966—Notre Dame	1954—Ohio St., UCLA	1942—Ohio State	1929—Notre Dame
1965—Ala., Mich. St.	1953—Maryland	1941—Minnesota	1928—Southern Cal
1964—Alabama	1952—Michigan State	1940—Minnesota	1927—Illinois
1963—Texas	1951—Tennessee	1939—Texas A&M	1926—Stanford
1962—Southern Cal	1950—Oklahoma	1938—TCU	1925—Dartmouth
		1937—Pittsburgh	1924—Notre Dame

NATIONAL RATINGS, 1936-73

Notre Dame and Oklahoma have been the nation's most successful majors in 38 years of wire-service polls. Counting 10 points for each first, 9 for second and so on, the Irish have 161 points, the Sooners 130. Over the last 10 seasons—all under coach Bear Bryant—Alabama leads with 57 points, edging Notre Dame's 55—all under Ara Parseghian. Next are Southern Cal with 44 points and Nebraska, Texas and Ohio State, 43 each.

Notre Dame	161	Ohio State	109	Tennessee	86	Army	61
Oklahoma	130	Texas	101	Southern Cal	80	LSU	60
Alabama	110	Michigan	98	Mich. State	72	Minnesota	57